

### REMARKS

The Final Office Action mailed January 27, 2009, has been carefully considered together with each of the references cited therein. The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. The amendments made herein are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present Application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

### CLAIM STATUS

Claims 1-6 and 8-11 are pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended.

### Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 6 and 8-11 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hartman et al. (US 6,019,833). This rejection is respectfully overcome.

In Paragraph 5 of the Final Office Action, the Office argues, Hartmann teaches light colored conductive coating and associated processes (ti.). The preferred binder for the coating composition is made of a saturated resin having pendant hydroxyl groups and an aminoplast curing agent according to col 1 line 65 to col 2 line 1 (underlining added). A further recommended binder is mentioned in col 2 lines 22 to 26 to be a polyepoxide and a polyacid curing agent. Hartmann therefore teaches coatings which are made by curing a first polymer, i.e. reacting a first polymer with a curing agent, the curing agent being a second polymer.

As can be seen by the Office, Hartmann does not teach a laser markable composition. Moreover, Hartmann does not teach disclose or suggest a composition made by an extrusion process, press moulding, injection moulding or blow moulding.

In addition, Applicants have amended their definition of a polymer (in claim 1) to a polyolefin or a thermoplastic polyurethane. As well as the differences above, this is of patentable significance over Hartman et al. as the composition of Hartmann requires a resin "having pendent hydroxyl groups." The polymer of the instantly claimed invention does not have any pendent hydroxyl groups. In contrast, the polyolefin or thermoplastic polyurethane can not have such pendent groups.

The functional, chemical differences between coating resins (Hartmann) and thermoplastics (as required by the present invention) is as follows

A critical requirement for polymeric materials used as coating resins is an ability to be crosslinked. This crosslinking gives the coating the properties of environmental and thermal resistance. Once crosslinked, the polymeric material can never be remelted into a reformable mass again. To accomplish crosslinking, two things are needed. The first is some functionality pendent to the main polymer chain. That functionality can be acid, alcohol, amine, epoxy or anhydride. Second is a reactive molecule that will tie the polymer chains together through the functional pendant groups. These functional pendant groups are generally not available with commercial thermoplastic resins and specifically not available in polyolefins and thermoplastic polyurethanes. Polyolefins are the product of polymerization of hydrocarbons and contain only carbon and hydrogen. Branching and stereoregularity yield different properties. By definition, they do not contain pendent reactive functional groups and cannot be crosslinked using a reactive molecule such as an aminoplast. A thermoplastic polyurethane is made by reacting a polyol with an excess of isocyanate (Polyurethane Handbook, Gunther Oertel, Hanser Publishers, New York, 1985, pg 406). By reacting with an excess of isocyanate, any hydroxyl endgroups which may have been left after polymerization will be reacted and capped and will no longer be available for further reactions with a curing agent.

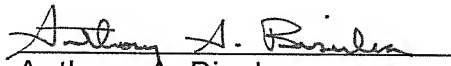
Thus, it is clear that the polymers used by Hartmann could not be used in the present invention as Hartmann clearly and unequivocally requires the use of polymers having pendent groups, whereas the instantly claimed invention

specifically excludes such polymers by reciting polyolefins and thermoplastic polyurethane.

In view thereof, it is respectfully contended that the 35 USC § 103 rejection has been overcome. In consequence, Applicants courteously solicit reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, he is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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